REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1, 3, 4-6, 8, 9 and 11 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 6, and 9 have been amended. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed and specifically at pages 17-19 and Figures 9-11. Claims 2, 7 and 10 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were in full compliance with the requirements 35 U.S.C. §112. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which the Applicant is entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1, 2, and 4-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,600,869 to Chen et al.

Amended independent claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

> "...inputting means fed with an editing operation for said input video signals,
>
> wherein the inputting means is adapted assign a module for each form, and to identify a common class based on the assignment;
>
> a plurality of editing processing means, associated with said forms, said editing processing means editing said input video signals in accordance with an editing operation fed as an input to said inputting means and the common class." (emphasis added)

As understood by the Applicant, U.S. Patent No. 6,600,869 to Chen et al. (hereinafter, merely "Chen") relates to Digital video (DV) formatted image streams that are converted into an intermediate format having a lower resolution than the original image streams. A user edits the intermediate formatted image streams to generate a sequence of edit commands. The edit commands are then processed to generate an output image stream based on the original image streams. The output image stream may be in a desired format, including DV format. The sequence of edit commands may also be processed to generate a preview image stream in the intermediate format.

Applicant submits that Chen does not disclose the above-identified features of claim 1. Specifically, Applicant submits that Chen fails to teach or suggest assigning a module for each form, and identifying a common class based on the assignment, and editing the video stream based on the common class, as recited in claim 1. Therefore, independent claim 1 is believed to be patentable.

For reasons similar, or somewhat similar, to those described above, claims 6 and 9 are believed to be patentable.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

Claims 4, 5, 8, and 11 are dependent from one of the amended independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

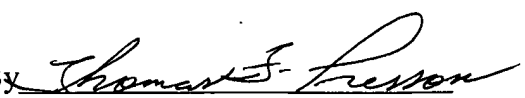
CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of the statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate the portion, or portions, of the reference providing the basis for a contrary view.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicant respectfully requests early passage to issue of the present application.

Please charge any fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
Attorneys for Applicant

By 

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